

Town of Arlington

Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes of 2/11/15, 7:15 pm to 9:30 pm, Town Hall 2nd floor conference room.

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener.

Members and Associates Present: Seth Federspiel, Melissa Laube, Jeff Maxtutis, Marjorie Moores, Howard Muise, Jeanette Rebecchi, Scott Smith, Laura Wiener

Missing Members and Associates: Wayne Chouinard, Cary Conrad, John Hurd, Victor Rivas, Corey Rateau

Members of the Public Present: Jen Rothenberg (Parks and Recreation Commission)

1. Public Comments/Spy Pond Tennis Courts. Jen Rothenberg spoke about the Spy Pond Tennis Courts renovation, on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Commission. She thanked TAC for looking at the area for possible pedestrian and traffic improvements. The plan is to rebuild the courts and add a full court and a half court. It has been studied by the Institute for Human Centered Design, along with other Parks and Rec. sites. Traffic there is already difficult, especially during pick-up at the Boys and Girls Club. There is very limited accommodation for pedestrians. A TAC Working Group met at the site. Howard noted that there is no sidewalk on the field side and the crosswalk across Wellington St. does not line up with the main entrance to the Boys and Girls Club or the entrance to the field and tennis courts. The parking area has a very wide curb cut. The Institute report recommends a 32" sidewalk, which the working group believes should be 48" according to the Massachusetts Architectural Barriers Board (ABB). Recommendations were:
 - If a sidewalk is not provided along the full length of the field, install sidewalk between tennis court entrance and crosswalk;
 - Consider replacing the existing speed bumps with a speed table in front of Boys and Girls Club to slow traffic;
 - Consider a Woonerf—a shared space for pedestrians and drivers. Scott suggested something temporary with planters to slow traffic and open up the street to pedestrians.Jen said she would discuss recommendations with the Parks and Recreation Commission. Based on any feedback from the Commission, the TAC will adopt recommendations at its March meeting and forward them to the Board of Selectmen and the Parks and Recreation Department.
2. Administration. Minutes of 1/14/15 meeting were approved unanimously. Correspondence and handouts were reviewed.
3. Town Reports.
 - a. Laura reported that the Master Plan was adopted by the Redevelopment Board on Feb. 4. It will go to Town Meeting for their endorsement.
4. Lake Street. Jeff reported that the recommendations went to the Selectmen on February 5. Concerns were raised by residents, who felt the increased throughput would invite more cars to use Lake Street, and that there was no improvement to safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. Selectmen voted to collect more information. Jeff and Howard will meet with Adam Chapdelaine to outline next steps.
5. Complete Streets. A warrant article will go to Town Meeting to accept the legislation. A policy will be developed when guidelines are available from MassDOT.
6. Bike Accommodation Design Matrix. Needs to be finalized by Working Group. DPW wants to take it to Selectmen to be voted in March, before spring construction season.
7. Highland/High Haith. Melissa met with Deb Savage. Flags have increased awareness of the crosswalk across Highland at High Haith. Neighbors are interested in exploring a speed sign or bollard in the middle of the road to raise awareness of the crosswalk. Jeff noted that we would need to look at speeds there. Melissa will ask Corey about scheduling speed detectors.
8. Jason Street. Howard will talk to Wayne about cost estimate for raised speed table at intersection with Brantwood, with no change to Hillsdale (Option 5A). A wheelchair ramp is not needed if intersection is raised.

9. Adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

Meeting Materials:

- Meeting Packet for February: Agenda 2/11/15; Minutes of 1/14/15; Individual Action List 2/11/15; Project List dated 2/11/15.
- Brantwood Road/Jason Street Intersection Improvements Concept Sketches, May 2, 2014
- Memo to TAC from Spy Pond Tennis Courts Renovation Working Group, dated February 11, 2015.
- DRAFT Context Sensitive Bike Facility Design Guide Matrix, December 2014
- Memo from Wayne Chouinard to Howard Muise, dated 2/11/15, update for Individual Action List Items.